The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health announced the availability of funding for the Leveraging Existing Natural Experiments to Advance the Health of People with Severe Mental Illness program (Catalog for Federal Domestic Assistance number: 93.242)

People with severe mental illness (SMI) die from the same causes as those in the general population, e.g., heart disease, diabetes, cancer, stroke, and pulmonary disease. However, these diseases are more common in people with SMI and lead to earlier death. The purpose of this program is to support one-year grants for research planning activities to develop the infrastructure needed to enable subsequent testing of existing innovative service interventions that aim to reduce the prevalence and magnitude of common modifiable health risk factors related to shortened lifespan in people with SMI.

The

application deadline is March 11, 2013.

Eligible applicants include state and local governments, institutions of higher education and other nonprofit organizations.

To request an application package, visit www.grants.gov

. For further information, contact Rebecca Claycamp, National Institute of Mental Health, 301-443-2811,

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